

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1.(Currently Amended) A method for scanning and cutting sheet-type work material, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing a layer of sheet-type work material carried by a support surface;
 - b) providing a scanning and cutting table having said support surface mounted to said table, a carriage mounted to said table for movement back-and-forth in a first coordinate direction in response to commands issued from a controller, and a cutting head and a scanning head mounted on said carriage, each for movement independently of the other back-and-forth along the carriage in response to commands issued from the controller in a second coordinate direction approximately perpendicular to said first coordinate direction;
 - c) automatically scanning said work material to determine a periphery thereof and detecting flaws in said work material;
 - d) automatically nesting a pattern piece onto said work material after the flaw detection in said work material;
 - e) nesting a subsequent pattern piece onto said work material while simultaneously cutting the previously nested pattern piece from said work material; and
 - f) repeating steps d and e until all of said pattern pieces are cut from said work material.
- 2.(Cancelled)

3. (Original) A method as defined by claim 1, wherein said work material comprises a hide.

4. (Original) A method as defined by claim 1 including the further step of providing a vacuum generator for drawing said work material against said support surface.

5. (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

providing a layer of impermeable material;

covering said work material with said layer of impermeable material for being sutured with said work material; and

operating said vacuum generator to draw said work material and said layer of impermeable material down against said support surface.

6. (Original) A method as defined by claim 1, wherein said step of automatically scanning includes, automatically detecting said flaws in said work material.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as defined by claim 1, wherein said step of providing a cutting head and a scanning head includes providing the cutting head and the scanning head on opposite longitudinal sides of the carriage relative to each other.